

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1-6 and 45-48 were previously pending in this application. By this amendment, Applicant is canceling claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional or continuation applications directed to the canceled subject matter. Claims 2, 3, 5 and 45-48 have been amended. New dependent claims 49-51 have been added. As a result, claims 2-6 and 45-51 are pending for examination with claims 5, 47 and 48 being independent claims. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's finding that claims 5, 6, 47 and 48 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 5, 47 and 48 have been amended to be rewritten in independent form. Claim 6 has not been rewritten because it depends from claim 5 which has been rewritten into independent form. Claims 2, 3, 45 and 46 have been amended to now depend from allowable independent claim 48. Applicant has also added new dependent claims 49-51 which are similar to dependent claims 2-4 and which depend from allowable independent claim 47.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 45 and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bach (US 2005/0135952).

Without acceding to the propriety of the Examiner's positions, Applicant has canceled claim 1 and has amended dependent claims 2-4, 45 and 46 to now depend from allowable claim 48 to expedite prosecution and place this application in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

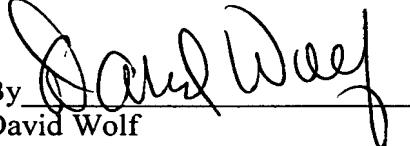
CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Dated: October 11, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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